

PRESIDENT'S OCTOBER 2025 REPORT

President – Dr. Rosana Reyes



LAMAR
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



EDUCATION FOR ALL

2025 LCC Knowledge Bowl

On October 31, Lamar Community College proudly hosted the 2025 Knowledge Bowl, and what an incredible turnout it was. The event brought together 18 high schools, 26 teams, and more than 100 bright, motivated students from across the region for a full day of spirited academic competition.

The atmosphere was electric as students demonstrated their quick thinking, teamwork, and depth of knowledge across a wide range of subjects. The level of preparation and enthusiasm from each team was truly inspiring and reflected the strong academic culture fostered by our partner schools.

 Congratulations to our top finishers:

- 1st Place: Lamar A — a commanding performance on home ground
- 2nd Place: Karval — consistent and strategic throughout the day
- 3rd Place: Springfield A — sharp, focused, and competitive

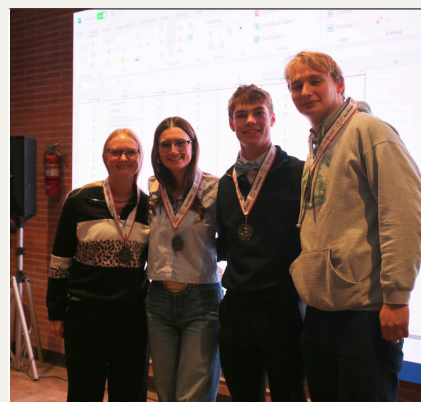
We extend our thanks to all participating schools, coaches, and volunteers who made this event a success. Their commitment to academic excellence and student development is what makes events like this possible. LCC remains proud to serve as a hub for intellectual engagement and community connection. We look forward to welcoming even more teams and talent in 2026!



Lamar A
1st place winners



Karval
2nd place winners



Springfield A
3rd place winners



EDUCATION FOR ALL

Student Life Pumpkin Painting

LCC Student Life coordinator Israel Rodriguez hosted a festive, fall-themed Pumpkin Painting event that attracted approximately 40 students. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, with tables set up for creativity and seasonal fun. The event encouraged social interaction and collaboration, as participants shared ideas and techniques while enjoying refreshments and music. Many students expressed appreciation for the opportunity to relax and engage in a stress-free activity during a busy semester. Overall, the event successfully fostered community spirit, creativity, and campus engagement, leaving participants with memorable keepsakes and a sense of connection.

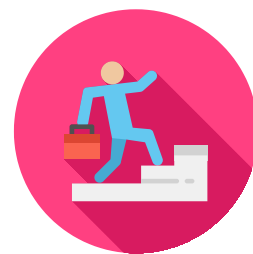
Student Life Halloween Dance

Our Halloween Dance was an outstanding success, attracting approximately 80 enthusiastic attendees dressed in a wide array of creative and festive costumes. The evening featured lively music, an energetic dance floor, and a spirited costume contest that awarded prizes for first, second, and third place. The high level of participation and excitement created an unforgettable atmosphere, making this one of the most vibrant and engaging events of the season. Students left with lasting memories and a strong sense of community connection.





EDUCATION FOR ALL



Lamar Community College Makes History with First Bachelor's Degree Offering

Lamar, CO — Lamar Community College (LCC) is proud to announce a historic milestone in its 85-year history. On September 30, 2025, the Higher Learning Commission officially approved LCC's request to offer a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Business Administration, marking the college's first four-year degree. "This is a transformative moment for our college, our students, and southeastern Colorado," said Dr. Rosana Reyes, President of Lamar Community College. "Offering a bachelor's degree right here at LCC opens new doors for local students and strengthens the workforce pipeline in our region. "The new BAS in Business Administration is designed to provide students with advanced knowledge and practical skills for leadership roles in business, entrepreneurship, and organizational management. The program reflects LCC's continued commitment to accessible, high-quality education tailored to meet regional workforce needs. President Dr. Rosana Reyes extended heartfelt thanks to Vice President Emick and Jennifer Mortimeyer for their leadership and dedication throughout the approval process. "Their hard work and unwavering commitment, along with support from departments across campus and local advisors, made this achievement possible. It's a testament to what we can accomplish together. "LCC's new four-year offer not only gives students a chance to pursue higher levels of education without leaving the region but also plays a critical role in strengthening post-secondary access in southeastern Colorado. "History has been made at LCC, and it's only the beginning," added Dr. Rosana Reyes. "Together, we are expanding opportunities and transforming lives through learning."

Career Fair 2025

The 2025 Career Fair was an unprecedented success, drawing four times more college students and community members compared to the previous two years combined. This achievement reflects the outstanding collaboration across campus. Highlights included dynamic program demonstrations, VR technology integration, and strong volunteer support. Special thanks go to Student Services/TRIO, ASIPRA, IT, academic programs, custodial and maintenance teams, coaching staff, and student volunteers for their exceptional contributions. The event showcased LCC's commitment to workforce development and community engagement.



PARTNER OF CHOICE

SpaceX Visit

On October 23, SpaceX representatives visited LCC for an advisory conversation and delivered a presentation on Star Island, their innovative concept for future space infrastructure. The session provided students and faculty with valuable insights into SpaceX's vision for sustainable space habitats and career opportunities in aerospace technology. This engagement strengthened LCC's connection with industry leaders and highlighted pathways for students interested in advanced technologies.



MVP Night with Melvin Adams

LCC had the pleasure of hosting Melvin Adams, former Harlem Globetrotter and NBA player, for our recent "MVP Night." In addition to his impressive athletic background, Melvin is a renowned motivational speaker known for combining inspiring messages with engaging basketball trick performances. The event was designed to foster a stronger sense of student community and to promote personal growth and internal value among our students. It was a resounding success, with nearly 60 students in attendance. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many students expressing a desire for more events of this kind and requesting that speakers like Melvin return in the future. To further encourage connection and engagement, we also provided food and interactive games, which helped to create a fun and inclusive atmosphere. The return on this event, in terms of student enthusiasm, participation, and campus culture, was significant.





PARTNER OF CHOICE

CoLab 2025

The Colorado Department of Education's 2025 Teaching and Learning CoLab conference, held in partnership with the Southeastern Boards of Cooperative Educational Services and Lamar Community College, exceeded all expectations. This year's gathering was held at Lamar Community College and brought together an incredible community of educators, administrators, and education professionals for a day of meaningful collaboration and professional growth. More than 350 people attended the conference, which featured over 50 sessions. The success of CoLab 2025 in Lamar reinforces the vital importance of creating spaces where education professionals can learn together, share experiences, and inspire one another. Thank you to everyone who attended, presented, and helped make our 2025 Teaching and Learning CoLab such a memorable and impactful experience.



Sodexo Event

On November 12, Sodexo Dietitians visited Lamar Community College to promote the Everyday App. During the event, they distributed promotional giveaways and provided complimentary drink coupons to individuals who downloaded the application. The Everyday App offers significant benefits to students by enabling them to access breakfast, lunch, and dinner menus one week in advance. Additionally, the app provides detailed nutritional information for each menu item, supporting informed dining choices. Student engagement during the event was notably high. Attendees actively participated and took advantage of the resources offered. Overall, the event was well-received and successfully achieved its objectives.



ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Colorado HSI Summit

Dr. Rosana Reyes recently delivered a featured presentation, “Rooted & Resilient: Leading Rural Institutions with Equity at the Center,” at the Colorado HSI Summit hosted by Colorado Mountain College. She highlighted LCC as a case study in how rural Hispanic-Serving Institutions can advance equity, innovation, and impact. Dr. Reyes emphasized the power of asset-based approaches to rural education, focusing on community and institutional strengths, rather than perceived deficits. She underscored the importance of equity-minded leadership and shared strategies LCC is using to strengthen institutional culture, invest in people, and align programs with workforce and community needs. Her remarks reinforced that leadership in rural colleges is both purposeful and place-based, grounded in resilience and rooted collaboration. Dr. Reyes closed by challenging attendees to lead from where they are, with what they have, and to continue elevating rural HSIs as engines of opportunity and economic mobility.

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) national annual conference

Dr. Rosana Reyes recently co-presented “Operating Fluidly Within Macro and Micro-Environments” with Dr. Cheryl Lovell, once again at the 2025 Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) national annual conference at the Gaylord Rockies in Aurora offering a timely look at how national policy shifts, political dynamics, and local community expectations are reshaping higher education. Dr. Reyes highlighted LCC’s unique strengths as a rural, diverse institution and emphasized the importance of mission alignment, strong collaborative relationships, and an asset-based approach to student success. They also addressed the emerging federal “Compact for Academic Excellence,” encouraging proactive scenario-planning and thoughtful communication to protect institutional values and mission. Dr. Reyes closed by underscoring the human side of leadership, building trust, embracing ambiguity, and keeping student access and success at the center of every decision.

Earlier on this day, Dr. Reyes also served as a panelist presenter at the HACU Women’s Leadership Symposium “Leading Through Change: Stories from the Journey” during HACU’s 39th Annual Conference.





EMPOWERED TALENT

Lamar Community College Shines at Sliding Daze Fall Classic

Lamar Community College proudly brought home the Division I Championship at the Sliding Daze Fall Classic, earning the highest overall team score across both divisions. Our riders delivered outstanding performances in every class; Pleasure, Trail, Reining, and Cowhorse, demonstrating that hard work, talent, and teamwork truly pay off. A huge congratulations to our competitors and coaches for representing LCC with excellence and pride. The team is now preparing for their next big challenge: the SHTX World Show in Abilene, Texas.



Golf Team Fall Season



- Torrington, WY – 5th Place
- Riverton, WY – 2nd Place
- North Platte, NE – 2nd Place
- McCook, NE – 4th Place
- Sterling, CO – 4th Place
- La Junta, CO – 🏆 1st Place
- Lamar, CO – 2nd Place

The LCC Golf Team has demonstrated strong and consistent performance throughout the fall season, currently holding 2nd place in the region. Their placements across seven tournaments reflect both competitiveness and growth. The team's first-place finish in La Junta and multiple second-place standings have significantly contributed to their regional ranking. Their performance showcases the dedication of our student-athletes and coaching staff, and we look forward to their continued success in the upcoming spring season.



POWER OF 13

Chancellor Dr DeSanctis Visit

On October 16, 2025, Chancellor Marie DeSanctis visited Lamar Community College for a full-day engagement with campus leadership, faculty, staff, and students. Her visit began with a welcome and executive team meeting over breakfast in the newly remodeled LCC Library, followed by a meet-and-greet with members of the President's Leadership Council and key faculty and staff. She then connected with student leaders during a session at Betz Student Union, where refreshments were provided by Lopes' Café. The Chancellor toured the campus with recruitment and student success staff, and later joined Dr. Reyes for a driving tour of the Horse Training Management and Construction Trades build sites. The visit concluded with a lunch at Todd Burch Hall alongside the executive team and faculty before her departure.

Colorado Leaders Helping Lead the National Conversation

Colorado's community colleges have long led the way in expanding access, strengthening workforce pathways, and designing systems that deliver economic mobility for learners of all ages. Last week, that leadership was on full display in Washington, D.C., as national conversations about the future of community colleges took center stage. During the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Commission meetings, four leaders from the Colorado Community College System were appointed to guide critical national work on student success, institutional transformation, public relations and advocacy, and governance. Their presence reflects not only individual excellence, but Colorado's collective commitment to building a stronger, more vibrant community college movement for the nation. These discussions come at a pivotal moment. With shifting workforce needs, changing student expectations, and increasing demand for responsive, future-ready postsecondary systems, AACC is undertaking a major effort to develop a new "strategic compass" for the nation's community colleges. This effort, led by AACC CEO Dr. DeRionne Pollard and informed by an invited cohort of higher-education leaders from across the country, aims to reimagine how the association can amplify innovation, expand opportunity, and strengthen institutional resilience into the next decade.

